

Wednesday, December 10, 2008

[From the Coeur d'Alene Press](#)

- No new education news stories posted online today.

[From the Spokesman-Review](#)

- LCHS student adviser earns recognition

[From the Moscow Pullman Daily News \(password required\)](#)

- Enrollment trend could benefit UI, WSU

[From the Lewiston Tribune \(password required\)](#)

- No new education news stories posted online today.

[From the Idaho-Press Tribune, Nampa](#)

- Cathy Silak named Concordia law school dean

[From the Idaho Statesman](#)

- Cathy Silak named law school dean

[From the Twin Falls Times-News](#)

- Cathy Silak named Concordia law school dean

[From the Idaho State Journal \(password Required\)](#)

- No new education news stories posted online today.

[From the Idaho Falls Post Register \(password required\)](#)

- School bond vote is today

FROM THE COEUR D'ALENE PRESS

No new education news stories posted online today.

FROM THE SPOKESMAN-REVIEW

LCHS student adviser earns recognition

Rainey Coffin
Staff writer
December 6, 2008

Nichole Thiel, a family and consumer science teacher and student council adviser at Lake City High School, and the Region 1 and Region 2 adviser to the Idaho Association of Student Councils was recently recognized as the IASA Outstanding Adviser of the Year.

She was selected from 59 advisers who attended an IASA conference in November in Boise.

According to a press release from the Coeur d'Alene School District, Aubree Dinning, LCHS student body president and IASA vice president, said Thiel is very deserving. "She is possibly the most organized person I've met. She has innovative ideas and is completely devoted to us. She's always there when we need her and always give us (the students) credit for everything she does."

Thiel spends more than 300 hours during the year, helping students work on dances, assemblies, movie nights and the annual spirit day.

Also according to the press release Thiel said of her students, "Our biggest focus is to work on the different dynamics of the school. ... We really strive to have students look forward to the events and know what events are going on." She said seeing the students' pride in their school makes it all worthwhile.

Thiel will receive a plaque, in recognition of her achievement and a commemorative ring from IASA sponsor Herff Jones Co.

LCHS food drive nets \$5,712

Lake City High School's Youth Volunteers in Action food drive was a great success for those in need this holiday season.

The 10-day food drive brought in 29 turkeys, 4,419 pounds of canned food, and \$5,712.

In the 25-plus years that the Youth Volunteers have done the drive, Don Callister, the YVA adviser, stated that this was the second highest amount of money and food collected.

The LCHS Key Club held a clothing drive during the food drive and collected more than 700 clothing items to be distributed to families in need.

The donations were given to the Community Action Partnership Food Bank in Coeur d'Alene and to ElderHelp, a local senior citizen assistance agency.

Area students will perform at music festival

Students from Coeur d'Alene School District have been selected to participate in the 41st biennial All-Northwest Music Festival.

Cellist Nathan Barber from Coeur d'Alene High School, violinist Bryant Baird from Lake City High School, and trumpet players Cory Williamson and Christina Marfice from Lake City High School, will perform at the INB Performing Arts Center Feb. 12 through 15.

The Coeur d'Alene students auditioned for the festival and will join 1,000 high school musicians from three states for three days of rehearsals, followed by the four-day performance.

Teachers earn National Board Certification

Coeur d'Alene High School English teacher Paul Swartz and science teachers Neil Morris and Jon Zebrowski earned their National Board Certification.

The certification requires 600 hours of study, self assessment, expert evaluation and peer review. In the past decade only 15 other Coeur d'Alene School District educators have earned the designation.

FROM THE MOSCOW PULLMAN DAILY NEWS (PASSWORD REQUIRED)

Enrollment trend could benefit UI, WSU

University officials hope to see student numbers increase in uncertain economy
By Halley Griffin, Daily News staff writer

Posted on: Tuesday, December 09, 2008

The state and national economies are a major cause for concern at institutions of higher education, but there is at least one area keeping public university employees optimistic - enrollment.

Enrollment in public colleges and universities tends to go up when the economy is shaky. Officials at the University of Idaho and Washington State University are waiting to see where enrollment trends will go next fall, said Steve Neiheisel, UI associate vice president for enrollment management.

"We're always optimistic that it will happen," Neiheisel said.

Neiheisel said three things that benefit colleges and universities can happen when the economy is in turmoil:

People who are laid off from their jobs often return to school for additional training to attain new jobs. Community colleges tend to see the biggest enrollment increase during this period.

Recent college graduates will return to school to pick up another major or degree when they can't find jobs with the degrees they have.

Students tend to work more hours outside of school, which will slow their progress toward a degree and keep them in school longer.

WSU Vice President for Enrollment Management John Fraire said public schools tend to be the ones to see an increase, as more students decide not to leave the state to enroll in a more expensive private school.

He said there also is an increased number of people who have been laid off and are pursuing master's degrees, or who decide not to leave school once their undergraduate degree is complete.

"When that happens, it is possible schools like the University of Washington and other schools might see a small spike," Fraire said. "But that doesn't necessarily guarantee an increase in (WSU's) enrollment."

Neiheisel also was hesitant to predict whether this trend would prove true for the UI next year.

"I'm not going to guess at what next fall's numbers are going to be," Neiheisel said. "But enrollment and the economy are counter-cyclic. That is an accurate and well-documented trend."

Fraire said the way to increase enrollment is not to wait for an economic downturn, but through marketing and other programs.

He said WSU is working to stabilize its enrollment and hopes to have a freshman class of about 3,300 next fall. WSU welcomed a record 3,411 freshmen this semester.

"We're still looking at modest growth," he said. "I'm confident we'll be able to meet that with what we have in place."

Neiheisel said the UI, which saw its overall enrollment numbers increase this fall for the first time since 2003, also is focusing on communicating with potential students. For example, it is sending out packets of information about financial aid and scholarships this month.

"If you look at the idea of higher education being an investment ... most of the time you can work out the financial arrangements," Neiheisel said. "It's not nearly as expensive in the long run to go to school as it is not to go to school."

Halley Griffin can be reached at (208) 882-5561, ext. 239, or by e-mail at hgriffin@dnnews.com.

FROM THE LEWISTON TRIBUNE (PASSWORD REQUIRED)

No new education news stories posted online today.

FROM THE IDAHO-PRESS TRIBUNE, NAMPA

Cathy Silak named Concordia law school dean

BOISE, Idaho (AP) -- Former Idaho Supreme Court Justice Cathy Silak has been named the new dean of Concordia University Law School.

The school is scheduled to open in Boise as early as 2010. Silak was chosen from among 50 applicants for the job, and she'll help complete a \$7 million fundraising effort to open the school.

Concordia president Charles Schlimpert says Silak has a heart and passion for Idaho. She most recently worked as president of the Idaho Community Foundation in Boise.

Concordia, a private Lutheran liberal arts college in Portland, announced late last year that it wanted to open a three-year law school in Boise.

FROM THE IDAHO STATESMAN

Cathy Silak named law school dean

The former Idaho Supreme Court justice will head up Concordia University's new program in Boise.

Concordia University, Portland

BY BILL ROBERTS - broberts@idahostatesman.com

Edition Date: 12/10/08

Cathy Silak, a former Idaho Supreme Court justice, is the new dean of Concordia University Law School, scheduled to open in Boise as early as 2010.

Her selection is the strongest signal yet that Concordia intends to make Boise the home of its first-ever law school. Meanwhile, University of Idaho's hope of expanding legal education into Boise faces a budget-minded governor and Legislature trying to maneuver through tough economic times and falling state revenues.

Silak will help complete a \$7 million fundraising effort to open Concordia's law school and search for faculty to teach at the school.

"She has a heart and passion for Idaho," said Charles Schlimpert, Concordia president. "She loves the place."

Concordia's Board of Regents notified Silak late last week that she was selected from among 50 applicants in a national search to lead the new school. She starts work Monday.

Neither she nor Schlimpert would reveal her salary.

Silak, who worked until recently as president and CEO of the Idaho Community Foundation in Boise, submitted her application last summer.

"The opportunity to bring legal education to this part of the state is something of great interest to me," said Silak, who has been an attorney or a judge for most of the 25 years she has lived in Idaho.

The closest law schools to Boise are at the University of Idaho in Moscow and the University of Utah in Salt Lake City.

Concordia, a private Lutheran liberal arts college in Portland, announced in November 2007 it planned to open a three-year law school in Boise, one of the largest metropolitan areas in the country without one.

Concordia's 2007 announcement came just as the University of Idaho was drawing up plans to begin a three-year program in Boise, in part to head off a private school setting up shop in Idaho's capital city.

But the State Board of Education trimmed back U of I's plans in August to only a third-year law program in Boise. U of I wants \$926,000 from the state for its Boise program.

"This year will be a difficult year," said Don Burnett, U of I law school dean. "I am very hopeful in the long run we will establish the third-year program."

Silak's experience in the legal field and her work with the Idaho Community Foundation played a large role in her selection to lead the new school, Schlimpert said.

Silak served on the Idaho bench - first on the Court of Appeals and later as a state Supreme Court justice, between 1990 and 2000. She has law degrees from the University of California Law School and the University of Virginia.

"She has the judicial experience, which is significant, and a real heart for the community," Schlimpert said.

Both jobs fit in with the school's mission of providing a strong education and community involvement among its faculty and students, he said. "It's the whole package," Schlimpert said.

Concordia hopes to open the law school with 70 students and expand it to about 250.

The school has \$1.5 million in firm financial commitments and roughly \$3 million more it hopes to nail down in the next couple of months. But the school needs another \$1 million to \$2 million to sustain itself, Schlimpert said.

Concordia officials expect to announce a firm opening day for the law school next spring.

Bill Roberts: 377-6408

FROM THE TWIN FALLS TIMES-NEWS

Cathy Silak named Concordia law school dean

BOISE, Idaho - Former Idaho Supreme Court Justice Cathy Silak has been named the new dean of Concordia University Law School.

The school is scheduled to open in Boise as early as 2010. Silak was chosen from among 50 applicants for the job, and she'll help complete a \$7 million fundraising effort to open the school.

Concordia president Charles Schlimpert says Silak has a heart and passion for Idaho. She most recently worked as president of the Idaho Community Foundation in Boise.

Concordia, a private Lutheran liberal arts college in Portland, announced late last year that it wanted to open a three-year law school in Boise.

Information from: Idaho Statesman, <http://www.idahostatesman.com>

A service of the Associated Press(AP)

TFSD concerned about traffic needs at new school

By Ben Botkin

Times-News writer

Twin Falls School District officials have concerns about traffic safety near Canyon Ridge High School.

They want traffic lights in place at the intersection of Washington Street North and North College Road by the time school starts next fall. However, the traffic lights aren't expected to be up until 2010 - one year later than the district would like.

The Twin Falls School Board decided at Monday's meeting to send a letter to the city this week outlining its concerns about traffic safety and flow near the school if no traffic lights are in place when the high school opens up.

"Anything we can do to speed that process up would be good," said Brady Dickinson, principal of Canyon Ridge High School.

Besides lots of traffic from drivers, there are also concerns because students from nearby I.B. Perrine Elementary School walk in the area, Dickinson said.

The issue also has attracted the concerns of the new high school's Parent Teacher Student Association. The association's members recently decided to start circulating a petition that will be presented to city hall.

"We're hoping to get it put in before the school opens," said Lynda Detweiler, president of the PTSA.

About 12 volunteers have started circulating petitions for signatures, and Detweiler said that everyone has been receptive to the concern.

She doesn't know when the petition will be presented to city officials.

The traffic signals are part of a larger plan to widen Washington Street North, an upcoming project with federal funding. Because federal funding is involved, a change in the schedule for installing the signal would complicate plans, city officials have said.

Councilman Don Hall said he's aware of the school district's concerns. He also encouraged drivers to use the intersection of Washington and Cheney Drive, where there will be a new traffic signal when the school opens.

"We understand that concern, but we can only build projects we have the money for," Hall said.

Ben Botkin may be reached at 208-735-3238.

FROM THE IDAHO STATE JOURNAL (PASSWORD REQUIRED)

No new education news stories posted online today.

FROM THE IDAHO FALLS POST REGISTER (PASSWORD REQUIRED)

School bond vote is today

POST REGISTER

Today's election day.

Bonneville Joint School District 93 is asking voters to approve a \$25 million bond that district officials say they need to keep up with rampant growth at their schools.

Polls are open from 8 a.m. until 8 p.m. at all District 93 schools except Telford Academy.

Growth is so rampant districtwide, officials say the \$25 million bond won't cause property taxes to rise.

If voters approve the bond, district officials would use the money on a number of projects, including a new elementary school, new roofs at two schools, 10 new school buses and \$4.4 million in technology-related improvements.